

## JAPAN.

### Resignation of the Chief of the Imperial Treasury and Ex Post Facto Proclamation Against the National System of Finance.

### An Appeal to the People Against the Policy and Practice of the Placemen—British Bank Interests and an Attempt to Repeat India—The Great Feudal Baron Who Refuses to Be Modernized.

YOKOHAMA, May 22, 1873.

I mentioned in a previous letter that there had been some difficulties in the Finance Department of this country arising from a disagreement in policy between Okuma, one of the Privy Council, and Inoue Bunka, the Chief of the Finance Department. The difficulty was that Inoue was opposed to the lavish expenditure of the government, while Okuma was in favor of "improvement" at whatever cost to the treasury. Again, Inoue was thoroughly independent in his expressions of opinion, while Okuma was the mouthpiece of the jobbers and of the Oriental Bank Corporation. At the time of date of my former letter Inoue had threatened to resign; but it seems as if a compromise of some sort had been arrived at, for his leaving office was not consummated. Lately, however, these differences broke out afresh. Inoue and his immediate subordinate, Shibusawa, have both resigned.

THE CAUSES WHY.

The mere fact of the Finance Department of Japan was not perhaps a matter of very great importance to American readers in general, although such a circumstance could not fail to interest those who have commercial relations with this country. But in the change that has now taken place one or two circumstances are to be observed, which cannot fail to make it a matter of very considerable importance to all those who have but an indirect interest in the welfare of Japan. In the first place, then, Inoue, in resigning, has introduced a practice which I cannot but consider as well for the country should it be continued—namely, he has addressed himself to the public through the press, and has given his views upon public matters through the channel of a newspaper to the whole people. This is a most significant fact. For it must be taken into consideration that Inoue has not only broken through the feudal idea of Feudalism existing more in law than in fact, but it must necessarily stir up an idea in the minds of many who were not enough to appreciate the change at the time it was made. And the press is not an infant, nor yet out of its swaddling clothes. It is not yet aware of one of its own power, much less has that power been recognized by ministers and officials. Yet, notwithstanding all this, one of the chief officials of the country, disagreeing with the rest of the Cabinet, resigns his office, and tells the reasons of his resignation to the people through the press, thereby recognizing, in one act, not only the press as a power, but what is of still more significance, recognizing the power of public opinion in the Empire—a term which I hesitate not to say has hitherto been scarcely understood. Hence I attach immense importance to the publication of his resignation, and for the first time from a high public functionary.

THE POLICY OF THE ECONOMIC REFORMER TO THE PEOPLE.

The document is rather long one, and, as might be expected from a Japanese, somewhat verbose and indistinct. I therefore shall not send it to you in full, but shall send you a summary of the only parts which seem to me to have no bearing upon the points the Minister wishes to explain. The paper commences, somewhat abruptly, as follows:

Although the prosperity or decay of the State depends on natural causes, they also may be affected by the efforts of man. In various countries, the progress of civilization has been retarded by the influence of the government, and yet immense progress has already been made in various countries. The progress of civilization has been retarded by the influence of the government, and yet immense progress has already been made in various countries.

The document then mentions the improvements that have been made in legislation, education, military organization, &c. It points out that the only thing that has been done in the way of steamships, railroads, telegraphs, &c., refers to the Mint, iron foundries, roads and houses, and proceeds to say:

If we continue in this course for a few years without stopping our civilization will be such that we shall not be far from standing on a par with the most advanced countries of Europe or America. At this moment the people of every European or American country are different in their habits, their customs, their laws, their religion, and yet they are all civilized. The progress of civilization has been retarded by the influence of the government, and yet immense progress has already been made in various countries.

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## CHINA.

### The Foreign Diplomatic Audience Question Still Unsolved—The Youthful Emperor a Stickler for Imperial Routine—Court Positivism and Courtes Prostration—An Unlucky Time—Server—Awkward as a Dish-Handler and a Means of Speculation.

SHANGHAI, May 10, 1873.

The London Times says that the audience question has been discussed by the Chinese Emperor. Several statements have appeared in Europe lately to the effect that there was now no further question between the Chinese officials and the foreign diplomats on this matter. These statements are false. Personal audience has not yet been conceded, and nothing less than that will satisfy the foreign Ministers. On the contrary, there is every reason to believe that there will be considerable difficulty before the matter is finally settled. On the 19th of last month the foreign ministers received a despatch from the Chinese Foreign Office, in reply to their joint application, made some time previously, to have audiences of the Emperor, to the effect that the Emperor could only grant audiences "on the condition of the foreign officials kneeling while in his Majesty's presence." As the foreign Ministers will not agree to an such a condition, the question is still unsettled, and will remain so until a meeting of all the foreign Ministers has been called to discuss with him the operations they shall follow in this emergency.

THE MORALE OF THE MANIFESTO.

I have thus extracted the principal parts of this remarkable document, leaving out only those portions which contain repetitions and where the writer drops a little too deeply into metaphysical argument. It is, however, a most interesting document, and one which will be read with interest by all those who are interested in the progress of civilization in China.

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## POLICE MATTERS.

### Official Doings in the Departments—Offensive Trades.

The Police Commissioners are still pursuing the let-it-stand policy that seems to have taken hold of them. Numbers of visitors present themselves at the Central Office every day and are received, but that apparently is the end, for nothing is done. It may be that the Board is preparing a grand coup by which the Department is to be reorganized and reformed, and that the details of this effort require time for the preparation. During the past week street cleaning occupied a good portion of the attention of the Commissioners, and they express themselves determined to get the thoroughfares of the city in a good state and to keep them so. Meanwhile the regular police affairs are going on as usual, and that is anything but satisfactory so far as the outside branches of the service are concerned. The loosest negligence is shown by the people in the station houses. When a murder or heavy robbery occurs hours are allowed to elapse before the fact is telegraphed to Headquarters. Sergeants and captains labor under a belief that they should direct all the particulars of the cases.

IMPORTANT CASES.

Before sending them to the Central Office, when the opposite action should be the one in practice. Recently several murders took place in one night, and nothing was done to prevent them. The Central Office for hours after. This dilatoriness on the part of officials is extremely injurious to the public service, and should bring down upon the heads of the Commissioners the most severe reprobation. It is understood that great pressure is being brought to bear upon the Board in support of the several cases of neglect. The Board knows that transfers are to be made, and the Commissioners are only waiting to see the effect of the transfers. There are about eight choice precincts, and every captain on the force, except of course, those in charge at present, is waiting for a promotion. The Board naturally sees that the promotion of these officers is a matter of great importance, and that the promotion of these officers is a matter of great importance.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The Mutuals De'eat the Resolute in a Well Played Game—Score, 9 to 1.

From five to six hundred persons assembled on the Union Grounds yesterday afternoon to witness the first game of the season between the Mutual and Resolute Clubs. Play was called at ten minutes past four o'clock. Mr. Powers, of the Atlantic Club, acting as umpire. The first inning was unproductive of runs to either side, but in the second the Mutuals got in a couple of errors by Fleet, who was then playing short stop. In the third inning Mr. Campbell went to short and Fleet to first, a change that turned out to be decidedly beneficial to the Mutuals. The first base was made by Fleet, who hit a long line ball, to left field in the fourth inning, making a home run easily. The Jerseyman could not hit Matthews with any good effect, five of them striking out and the others securing but six base hits in the entire game. On the other hand, the Mutuals hit Campbell with most admirable results, securing three home runs and four errors were committed to them. Hicks was especially brilliant behind the bat, his catching and throwing being of the highest order. The Mutuals played their first base well for the Resolute, throwing out to first in five instances.

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## YELLOW FEVER IN BROOKLYN.

### Four Cases in State Street—One Death Yesterday—The Sanitary Authorities Retire.

Considerable excitement has been occasioned among the residents of the lower part of State street by the death of a young man from that terrible contagion, the yellow fever, and the three others with symptoms of the disease. On Tuesday morning John Smith, sixteen years of age, was taken down with the fever and died after an illness of three days. Dr. Wallace, the attending physician, took prompt measures towards preventing the spread of the contagion. The body of the deceased was removed from the house immediately upon the arrival of Sanitary Inspector Colton and Officer Halliday. Funeral services were to have been held in the Sydney place church, but this was prohibited, and the body was interred under the direction of the Health authorities.

On Thursday morning the brother of the deceased was attacked with severe chill, pain in the head (frontal region), pain in the back, loins and calves of the legs, followed with a high fever, hot dry skin, intense dyspnea of the face, injected eyes, with a peculiar yellowish appearance, and a heavily coated hyaline tongue. It was feared that he had become infected, though every measure was taken to prevent it. The patient was removed to the hospital, and the attending physician, Dr. Wallace, took prompt measures towards preventing the spread of the contagion.

Two of the neighbors were also attacked with the symptoms of the terrible malady. One of the patients resides at No. 18 State street, and the other in the house adjoining the one in which young Smith died. It was also reported last evening that a woman who resided a block from the Sydney place church, and who had been in the street since the death of the young man, was attacked with the fever. The symptoms were somewhat similar to yellow fever. The doctors, however, were not struck out and the others securing but six base hits in the entire game. On the other hand, the Mutuals hit Campbell with most admirable results, securing three home runs and four errors were committed to them. Hicks was especially brilliant behind the bat, his catching and throwing being of the highest order. The Mutuals played their first base well for the Resolute, throwing out to first in five instances.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The Mutuals De'eat the Resolute in a Well Played Game—Score, 9 to 1.

From five to six hundred persons assembled on the Union Grounds yesterday afternoon to witness the first game of the season between the Mutual and Resolute Clubs. Play was called at ten minutes past four o'clock. Mr. Powers, of the Atlantic Club, acting as umpire. The first inning was unproductive of runs to either side, but in the second the Mutuals got in a couple of errors by Fleet, who was then playing short stop. In the third inning Mr. Campbell went to short and Fleet to first, a change that turned out to be decidedly beneficial to the Mutuals. The first base was made by Fleet, who hit a long line ball, to left field in the fourth inning, making a home run easily. The Jerseyman could not hit Matthews with any good effect, five of them striking out and the others securing but six base hits in the entire game. On the other hand, the Mutuals hit Campbell with most admirable results, securing three home runs and four errors were committed to them. Hicks was especially brilliant behind the bat, his catching and throwing being of the highest order. The Mutuals played their first base well for the Resolute, throwing out to first in five instances.

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